

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-6 and 8-21 were pending in this application. Claim 6 was withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a species election.

The Examiner allowed claims 4, 5, 12-16, 19, and 20.

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 17 and 21 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Liebrecht U.S. Patent No. 3,837,030 (hereinafter "Liebrecht"). Dependent claim 18 was finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious from Liebrecht.

Claims 1, 8-11, and 17 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jackson U.S. Patent No. 6,446,297 (hereinafter "Jackson"). Dependent claim 18 was finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious from Jackson.

Summary of Applicants' Reply

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 4, 5, 12-16, 19, and 20.

Applicants have proposed canceling claims 1-3, 6, 8-11, 17, 18, and 21 to place the application in condition for allowance.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of this application in view of the proposed amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Showing of Good and Sufficient Reasons Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b)(3)

Applicants request amendment of this application, even though a final rejection has been issued. The proposed cancellation of rejected claims 1-3, 8-11, 17, 18, and 21 and withdrawn claim 6 places this application in condition for allowance. Thus, no additional search or consideration should be required. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of the proposed claim amendments and consideration of the following remarks.

Rejections of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 9-11, 17 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Liebrecht. Claims 1, 8-11, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being

anticipated by Jackson. And dependent claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious from Liebrecht and from Jackson.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

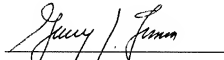
The proposed cancellation of claims 1-3, 8-11, 17, 18, and 21 renders moot these rejections.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-3, 8-11, 17, 18, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

This application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration, entry of the proposed amendments, and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garry J. Fuma", is written over a horizontal line.

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